

HEADQUARTERS
66TH COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS GROUP
UNITED STATES ARMY, EUROPE
APO 154 US ARMY

D-30477

SUBJECT: Soviet Apprehension of US Personnel (C)

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, G2
United States Army, Europe
APO 403, US Army
ATTENTION: G2CIPC

13 Sept 55

1. Reference letter, this headquarters, dated 22 August 1955.
2. Forwarded herewith are Agent Reports concerning Americans who were seen in prison camps in Russia.
3. Source is Herr Karlheinz Georg SCHLEICH aka Alexander SCHLEICH, German National, born 25 February 1920 in WIESSBADEN, Germany, presently residing at 38 Nerostrasse, WIESSBADEN, Germany.
4. Source stated that while serving with the German Army on the East Front, he was taken prisoner by the Russians on 23 August 1943, and placed in a Prisoner of War Camp near MICHAKLOVKA, Russia. In May 1944 he was transferred to WLADIMIR and in June 1944 transferred to a camp near KARAGANDA, Russia. In July 1948 he was transferred to another camp at KUBISCHEV, Russia. In the summer of 1949, SCHLEICH met two (2) Americans, one of whom he believes to be an Air Force officer by the name of WILLI BAUMEISTER, who was captured somewhere in Asia. BAUMEISTER was in poor physical condition and could do very little work. Source did not learn the name of the other American, who was also in poor physical condition and spent most of the time in a camp hospital. Source thought that these two (2) men had been at the camp for one (1) to two (2) years prior to his arrival. Source last saw these Americans in September 1949, as he was again transferred to another prison camp at STALINGRAD, Russia.

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ON 6/8/90
BY CDR USAINSCOM FOIPO
Auth Para 1-603 DoD 5200.1-R

1 Incl:
AR re SUBJ, 5 pgs (Trip)

3-32 WARREN S. LEROY
Colonel, CMIC
Commanding

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REGRADE DATA CANNOT BE PREDETERMINED

M/R: Source told of seeing two (2) Americans in a prison in the USSR, one of whom was known as an Air Force officer by name of WILLI BAUMEISTER. Name of other man unknown. BOSHART/154
Department of the Army, or higher authority. Unauthorized disclosure of such information will be considered to be a violation of AR 380-5.

AGENT REPORT

(GPR 500-200-10)

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

Soviet Apprehension of US Personnel

2. DATE SUBMITTED

13 September 1955

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OF FILE NUMBER

D-30477

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

On 7 September 1955, Herr Karlheinz Georg SCHLEICH aka Alexander SCHLEICH, German national, born 25 February 1920 in WIESBADEN MAH5h8, Germany, and residing at 38 Nerostrasse, WIESBADEN, was interviewed and stated substantially as follows:

While serving in the German Army, Karlheinz Georg SCHLEICH was taken prisoner on the East Front by the Russians on approximately 23 August 1943, and placed in a Prisoner of War camp near MICHAELOVKA, Russia. This was a recreation camp and SCHLEICH did no work during his stay there. SCHLEICH did not see or hear about any imprisoned Americans while confined in this camp. On approximately 5 May 1944, SCHLEICH was transferred to a camp near WLADIMIR, Russia. SCHLEICH believes that there were two (2) additional camps in the same immediate area. SCHLEICH worked as an unskilled laborer in the iron casting section of an unidentified tank factory near WLADIMIR. SCHLEICH did not see or hear of any imprisoned Americans while confined to this prison. SCHLEICH was transferred to a camp near KARAGANDA, Russia, on approximately 15 June 1944. During his imprisonment at KARAGANDA, SCHLEICH was housed in twenty-four (24) of the twenty-five (25) different camps at different times. SCHLEICH was employed as a filler in an unidentified coal mine near KARAGANDA. During his stay at KARAGANDA, SCHLEICH did not see or hear of any Americans imprisoned by the Russians. On approximately 23 July 1948, SCHLEICH was transferred to a camp at KUBISCHEV, Russia. In the summer of 1949, SCHLEICH met two (2) Americans in one (1) of the three (3) camps he was housed in while in KUBISCHEV. SCHLEICH believes that there were seven (7) camps in the immediate area. The names and exact locations of these camps are unknown. One (1) American is believed to be an Air Force officer, rank unknown, by the name of Willi BAUMEISTER. His description was as follows:

RACE:	Caucasian
AGE:	25 to 30
HEIGHT:	5'11" to 6'1"
WEIGHT:	150 to 160
DISTINGUISHING MARKS:	None

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Auth Para 1-5.03 DoD 5200.1-R

It was rumored in the prison that BAUMEISTER was captured somewhere in Asia. SCHLEICH never found out the circumstances surrounding the imprisonment of the two (2) Americans. BAUMEISTER was in poor physical

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(Continued)

5. TYPE, NAME, AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

FRANK U. BECK, 87A
66th CIC Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

FRANK U. BECK

3-33

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT Soviet Apprehension of US Personnel	2. DATE SUBMITTED 13 September 1955
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condition and was classed by the Russians as in Class 3. The Russians had their prisoners grouped into four (4) classes. They were as follows:

Class 1: Strong and suitable for all kinds of work.

Class 2: Average strength.

Class 3: Weak and only suitable for certain work.

Class "CK": Temporarily disabled and not fit for work until strengthened by food and rest.

BAUMEISTER worked at an unidentified cast iron factory where household supplies were manufactured. His work consisted of taking the finished product from the mold and stacking it in piles. SCHLEICH was employed as a foreman in the same factory but in a different section. SCHLEICH would come in contact with BAUMEISTER several times during the day. BAUMEISTER told SCHLEICH that he was in the United States Air Force but SCHLEICH does not remember any more of the details regarding BAUMEISTER's identity or military service. This factory was located approximately a twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) minute truck ride from the camp at KUBISCHEV. The other American, name unknown, was in very poor physical condition and remained in the camp hospital most of the time. SCHLEICH knows of no work that this American was assigned to do. It is not known if he was a civilian or in the military, but it is believed that the two Americans were brought to the camp at the same time and probably were captured together. It is believed that these two Americans had been at the camp one (1) or two (2) years before SCHLEICH arrived. SCHLEICH saw the unidentified American only two (2) or three (3) times. His description was as follows:

RACE:	Caucasian
AGE:	20 - 30
HEIGHT:	5'9" to 5'11"
WEIGHT:	130 to 140
HAIR:	Blond

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The camp in KUBISCHEV, where the Americans were imprisoned, was small, consisting of approximately six hundred (600) to seven hundred (700)

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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT FRANK U. BECK, S/A 66th CIC Group	6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT <i>Frank U. Beck</i> FRANK U. BECK
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AGENT REPORT

(GPO 200-000-10)

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prisoners with approximately forty (40) to fifty (50) guards. The prisoners lived in army type barracks which were all located on one main road. The camp was fenced in with eight (8) feet high wire fencing. During their confinement at the compound the prisoners were guarded by MVD personnel armed with pistols. When the prisoners were taken outside the compounds, the MVD guards were armed with either automatic rifles or sub-machine guns. During the summer, approximately fifteen (15) guards with four (4) dogs would guard eighty (80) to one hundred (100) prisoners and during the winter, approximately twenty (20) guards with four (4) dogs would guard the same number, while the prisoners were outside the compound. Additional guards were used in the winter because of the cold weather and the guards' need for more frequent relief. When the prisoners were taken to work they were guarded by Red Army troops armed with either automatic rifles or sub-machine guns. It is believed that the Red Army had no control over these camps hence the use of MVD personnel. During the transporting of prisoners, one (1) guard with one (1) dog guarded approximately twenty (20) prisoners. The prisoners were guarded by Red Army personnel at the factory. There were approximately twenty (20) men to one (1) guard. The factory was also in an area surrounded by an eight (8) feet high wire or wooden fencing. SCHLEICH knows of no time when either of the Americans collaborated with the Russians, or when they received favored treatment. Up until 1950, the Russians had Communist indoctrination sessions for all personnel at the camp except the Americans. It is believed that the Americans received no indoctrination. Libraries were available but few people used them. SCHLEICH does not remember seeing the Americans enter the library, which contained a lot of books on Communism. SCHLEICH does not remember any discussion groups and does not think the Americans attended any of them. The working day was from 0800 hours to 1700 hours. SCHLEICH was transferred to STALINGRAD, Russia, in September 1949, and did not see or hear about the two Americans again. SCHLEICH was quartered in four (4) of the seven (7) camps near STALINGRAD. SCHLEICH worked as a steam shovel operator while working on the Volga-Don Rivers Canal. In January 1953, while SCHLEICH was in transient, he met an unidentified American at a prison reception desk in SVETLOVSK, Russia. The American asked him if he was a Russian and SCHLEICH replied that he was a German. The American told SCHLEICH that he was an American and before SCHLEICH had a chance to question him further the Russian guard took SCHLEICH away. SCHLEICH saw the American for only a few seconds and can give no description or further details. SCHLEICH was transferred to this camp in May 1955 but did not see this American again or hear anything concerning him. SCHLEICH worked in a rubber factory at all different phases of production. On approximately 25 May 1955, SCHLEICH was released from

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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT FRANK U. BECK, S/A 66th CIC Group	6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT <i>FRANK U. BECK</i> FRANK U. BECK 3-35 DEGRADED UNCLASSIFIED 6/8/90
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DA FORM 341
1 APR 52

REPLACES WD AGO FORM 841, 1 JUN 47, WHICH MAY BE USED.

BY CDR JAINSCOM FOIR
Auth Para 1-60S D&D 6200. 1-1

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the Russian prison camp and made his way back to Germany.

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AGENT'S NOTES: Alexander SCHLEICH was the name given to SCHLEICH by the Russians. SCHLEICH is at the Gustav Weigand Stiftung (Rest Home), 80-82 Luisenstrasse, BAD HOMBURG HA 7364, Germany, and will remain there until 24 September 1955.

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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

FRANK U. BECK, S/A
66th CIC Group

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6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

for Frank U. Beck
FRANK U. BECK